



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Thai D. Nguyen *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/227,881

Confirm. No.: 7578

Filed: January 11, 1999

For: *Nucleic Acids, Kits and Methods for the
Diagnosis, Prognosis and Treatment of
Glaucoma and Related Disorders*

Group Art Unit: 1635

Examiner: Schultz, James

Docket No.: 16491.066

Response to the Office Action dated November 19, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 19, 2004, Applicants submit the following Amendments and Remarks.

Applicants do not believe any fees are due in conjunction with this submission other than those set forth in the accompanying transmittal letter. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. If any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time or additional claims, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing matter number 16491.066.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Applicants thank Examiner J. Douglas Schultz and Supervisory Patent Examiner John LeGuyader for extending the courtesy of a personal interview on August 31, 2004, and for their helpful suggestions. Applicants particularly thank Examiner Schultz for his agreement to search SEQ ID NO: 34 and to allow claims directed to SEQ ID NO: 34.